

CSR Policy Dutch Sprouts

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1. CSR policy for Dutch Sprouts in general

1.1. Dutch Sprouts as a social enterprise

Corporate social responsibility is already in the genes of Dutch Sprouts as we aim to develop products with a positive impact on people and planet (more rationalistic, evidence-based inputs (fertilizers/manures/composts) leading to increased outputs without harming the environment (= planet) and empowering even small-scale farmers in developing countries so that they can both improve their life conditions, thus contributing to bridging the world food gap (= people).

Dutch Sprouts vision and mission:

We believe that if farmers are struggling to cater with growing food demand it is partly because they have limited access to the available knowledge and technology in both poor and developed countries.

We aim to provide the world's farming community with data-based precision farming in order to extensively increase crop yields.

Dutch Sprouts aims to involve stakeholders, both internally and externally via an open dialogue. Externally Dutch Sprouts involves stakeholders via the Supervisory Board, Scientific Advisory Board and social media (website, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn).

SoilCares Foundation is Dutch Sprouts' internal conscience. SoilCares Foundation is established to give smallholders access to agricultural information and technologies. By doing this, SoilCares Foundation is bridging the knowledge gap that still remains in soil fertility management. SoilCares Foundation is taking care of capacity building among smallholder farms, based on soil fertility issues. SoilCares Foundation cooperates with other NGO's and governmental organisations to maximise impact. In 2016 SoilCares Foundation has obtained the Dutch ANBI (Algemeen Nut Beogende Instelling) status, meaning SoilCares Foundation is an official recognised charity organisation, following all terms and conditions of the Dutch Law, as defined in article 2 of the *Algemene Wet inzake rijksbelastingen*. The Dutch government will check on an annual base if SoilCares Foundation continues to meet the requirements for the ANBI status.

1.2. Impact of Dutch Sprouts' actions on people and planet

As a company we have to take responsibility for the impact of our actions on people and planet. We aim to incorporate the basic elements of the OESO guidelines with our actions on disclosure, employment and industrial relations, environment, combating bribery, consumer interests, science and technology and taxation.

2. Disclosure

2.1. Website

Relevant information on Dutch Sprouts and its affiliates is published on the websites of Dutch Sprouts and its affiliates (www.dutchsprouts.com, www.soilcares.com, www.clear-detections.com, www.springg.com). All Dutch Sprouts' employees can be found (with pictures and email addresses) on the Dutch Sprouts website. Information on the websites is updated regularly.

2.2. Advisory Board and Scientific Advisory Board

Dutch Sprouts has an Advisory Board with the following members:

Albert Hagting, who studied at the Agricultural University Wageningen, The Netherlands. He holds various supervisory board positions. He fulfilled during his career various director positions in the agricultural market place.

Prof. Dr. Martin Kropff, who is Director General of CIMMYT (International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center). He also studied at the Agricultural University Wageningen, The Netherlands. (PhD Theoretical Production Ecology, cum laude) and at the Universiteit Utrecht, The Netherlands (MSc Biology (cum laude)).

Jantienus Ruinemens, who has been an investor in many companies, both in The Netherlands and abroad. He held various supervisory board positions and has been managing director of Residex, an investment company with an invested capital of € 300M.

Dutch Sprouts is currently establishing a Scientific Advisory Board with independent scientists.

3. Employment and Industrial relations

3.1. Employment

Within Dutch Sprouts we practise good employment practices. This means that we treat our employees fair and just. We explicitly do not discriminate on grounds of race, colour, sex, religion, political opinion, national extraction or social origin. Employees of Dutch Sprouts and its affiliates are all over the age of 17, from more than 10 different nationalities, follow different religions, are equally divided among men and women and equally divided between young and old.

For staff we will set up a code of conduct, which every staff member including consultants, interns and volunteers should abide by. This code of conduct entails how to represent Dutch Sprouts during working hours, but also beyond especially when traveling. It goes into subjects like bribery, discrimination etc.

Dutch Sprouts, its affiliates, franchisee organisations and suppliers all comply with local regulations and law.

When signing a contract with a new franchisee or supplier, an enclosure based on banishing discrimination and child labour is added and signed.

3.2. Occupational health and safety

The main health and safety regulations towards employees are taken very serious within Dutch Sprouts and will always be leading when a situation requires it. For traveling staff, a safety & security policy will be drawn up, to give more guidance before, during and after traveling.

Occupational health and safety in Dutch Sprouts' operations is most hazardous in SoilCares' laboratories. All staff, working in the laboratories, receives a training to work safely with the equipment, before they can operate the laboratory. In the Golden Standard Laboratory in Wageningen, standard operation procedures (SOP) need to be followed by staff. Before an employee is allowed to perform analyses in the laboratory, a SOP document needs to be signed by the employee and the supervisor, including all safety procedures.

4. Environment

4.1. Policy

As a company, we have the ambition to improve the environment. First, by using our NIR/MIR technology for soil analysis results in a healthy and safe working environment, as this technology is chemical-free, opposed to classical wet-chemical techniques to analyse soils. Secondly, our products have been designed to have a potential positive impact, both socially and environmentally: our advice enables farmers to improve their farm management by reporting soil and feed nutrient status, which is the basis of a more efficient use of farm inputs (fertilizers/manures/composts/feeds), reducing waste and improving soil fertility and quality. To many farmers, any advice on soil and feed nutrients status is currently not available because either appropriate laboratories are not available or not affordable.

To develop our SoilCares Global Soil Database (calibration database) SoilCares has its own Golden Standard Laboratory in Wageningen, the Netherlands. This GSL laboratory uses wet chemical techniques and sensors. Dutch Sprouts' main environmental policy concerns this laboratory. Waste management policy and procedures can be found in enclosure 1: Waste management Laboratory SoilCares.

5. Combating bribery

We want to do business in a fair and truthful way, according to the laws of the countries that we deal with. Bribery should be no part of that. Our people should not accept a bribe for any reason when dealing with clients and authorities. We shaped the payment system for analyses in such a way that it is nearly impossible for the staff members to manipulate the prices of our products (sales via web shop, credits that need to be purchased online for analyses). Franchisees and clients of SoilCares have the possibility to monitor the number of analyses and payments at all times.

6. Consumer Interests

6.1. Dutch Sprout's goods and products

Using sensor techniques in all Dutch Sprouts' and its affiliates' products is a non-hazardous alternative to current wet chemistry analyses for users of our products. Customers of a SoilCares Lab-in-a-box will receive a multi-day training for the operators of the Lab-in-a-box. All Dutch Sprouts' and its affiliates' products are delivered with manuals for good and safe use of products, including safety precautions. Manuals are enclosed and also online available.

6.2. Consumer information

All products of Dutch Sprouts' affiliates are delivered with manuals and information about the content. Consumers of Lab-in-a-box receive bi-monthly updates via newsletters about the Lab-in-a-box. New software releases will be automatically updated on computers and smartphones. Customers always have to agree with terms and conditions (also published online) before using Dutch Sprouts' affiliates software or before new updates of software.

6.3. Procedures for complaints

All our products are sold for production costs; customers pay for the analyses they perform with the products. Therefore, satisfied customers, who use our products very frequently, are of utmost interest for Dutch Sprouts. All products have a one-year warranty. SoilCares' office in Africa is equipped with a call centre customer can call with questions/complaints. SoilCares' contact numbers and email addresses are clearly shown on the website, as are Frequently Asked Questions with answers.

6.4. Consumer's privacy

Data which is collected from users of our services and products as well as data collected through surveys will be handled with care and stored centrally in a protected environment. Data can be used for the purpose of the client, the improvement of products and services offered to smallholder farmers and when anonymous for initiatives with the aim to improve food security.

Privacy policy is part of terms and conditions customers have to agree to before using our products.

7. Science and Technology

7.1 Development of innovative capacity

Dutch Sprouts mission is to provide the world's farming community with data-based precision farming in order to extensively increase crop yields.

We believe that if farmers are struggling to cater with growing food demand it is partly because they have limited access to the available knowledge and technology in both poor and developed countries.

All our activities are aimed to bring the latest knowledge of our highly qualified researchers literally in the hands of farmers worldwide, using smart sensors and intelligent databases. Contributing to the development of local and national innovative capacity is therefore in the heart of Dutch Sprouts anchored.

7.2 Co-operation with universities and public research institutes

Projects

Dutch Sprouts and its affiliates cooperate in different projects on a regular base with different universities and public research institutes, both in the Netherlands and in countries where Dutch Sprouts is active (e.g. Kenya and surrounding countries).

Scientific Advisory Board

Dutch Sprouts is establishing a Scientific Advisory Board, with independent members from different backgrounds. Aims of the Scientific Advisory Board:

- Advice and sounding board for SoilCares research and SoilCares.
- Advice and support for proof of concept SoilCares' products, market access and regulatory approvals.
- Advice, support and advocacy in establishing SoilCares' products and methods in agricultural policies.
- Advice and support in building international scientific networks across the soil science/sensors spectrum and identifying potential partners, advisors and spokespersons.
- Be available to help SoilCares Research and its affiliates generate and implement strategies for dealing with emergency situation.
- Ad-hoc advice, when requested, to SoilCares Research or SoilCares Management.

8. Taxation

Dutch Sprouts and its affiliates comply with the tax laws and regulations of all countries in which they operate.

The annual reports are published in time complying with the local regulations.